

Q&A document – Using Formative Assessments to Improve Teaching and Learning.

Are Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) required under this grant?

- No, for the purpose of the grant we are not requiring PLCs or collaborative teams, but we strongly suggest organizing teachers this way so they can develop some common formative assessments for students in multiple classes who are studying the same content.

If I am working with a school served by a Regional Assistance Center (RAC), do I need to include them in the grant?

- No, they do not need to be a partner, but they do need to be involved in the conversations involving the proposed program.

Is it possible to partner with a consultant to provide training/Professional Development - more than just consulting, a more extensive relationship?

- It is expected that the IHE will provide the substantive portion of the program. An IHE may augment its expertise through contracting with other entities to provide programmatic services. The organization would be considered a partnering organization, in contrast to an individual consultant.

How do I address the nonpublic school consultation requirements?

- As this program is funded under NCLB Title II-A, the IHE must provide timely and meaningful consultation with all nonpublic schools located within the district boundaries of the partnering LEA(s). The NJDOE maintains a searchable directory of nonpublic schools at <http://education.state.nj.us/directory/nonpub.php> . As most LEAs receive NCLB funds, they are familiar with the nonpublic consultation requirements and may be able to help identify the nonpublic schools that need to be consulted with.

Nonpublic school consultation requirements do not apply to partnering LEA(s) that are charter schools. Charter schools do not have district boundaries.

What does Equitable Services to Nonpublic schools mean?

- Services offered to both public and nonpublic school teachers must be equitable in nature, and the services must be based on the same per-teacher amounts.